

ARTICLE APPEARED
ON PAGE **B-12**

NEW YORK TIMES
18 SEPTEMBER 1980

Text of Statement by Brzezinski

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17— Following is the text of a statement today by Zbigniew Brzezinski, the President's national security adviser, before a subcommittee of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary:

I submitted a statement to the committee on Aug. 4. That statement is now part of the public record, along with a considerable body of other evidence the subcommittee has assembled. I would like to offer this morning a few observations about what has emerged from that record.

The inquiry has, of necessity, explored classified matters. Some aspects of the case, therefore, can only be discussed in executive session, if we are to protect extremely sensitive intelligence and diplomatic confidences.

The facts relating to my contacts with Billy Carter, however, are on the public record. There were three contacts involving Libya. Each was extremely brief, and notably narrow in scope:

The first, in late November of last year, was a part of our international campaign to generate pressure on behalf of the safety and, if possible, the release of the hostages. This contact was undertaken with the knowledge of both the President and the Secretary of State, at a time of extreme danger to the hostages. The suggestion that our purpose was to enhance Billy Carter's opportunity for commercial advantage in his relations with Libya is preposterous.

The second contact was my call to Billy Carter in late March, to admonish him that his commercial activities involving Libya might be exploited by a foreign power. That he might be contemplating such an arrangement was unknown to me in November or at any time before Admiral Turner brought this intelligence to my attention late in March. I considered, and to this day consider, it my duty to be careful, but not passive, with respect to such information.

The third contact, in June of this year, was initiated by Billy Carter. He wanted to know whether it would affect national security for him to disclose to the Department of Justice the fact that he had assisted in our earlier efforts regarding the hostages.

I have cooperated with this inquiry in every possible way. The President has determined that it is appropriate, for the first time in recent memory, that the assistant for national security affairs appear and testify under oath before a Congressional committee. The facts of the matter have been placed under intense scrutiny. Some have searched in all this for hidden motives, evasions, a maneuver to signal a secret change of course in our Middle East peace efforts — even a disregard for national security. Such speculation is groundless. Three elemental points are beyond cavil:

(1) Billy Carter had no influence whatsoever on my views, actions or policy toward Libya. I have seen not a shred of evidence that he had such an effect on the President, the National Security Council staff or the Department of State.

(2) In none of my meetings with the Libyan officials did I discuss overall United States policy toward the Middle East.

(3) As Admiral Stansfield Turner is reported to have testified, our intelligence was not compromised in my admonishing call to Billy Carter.

I will be pleased now to respond to any questions to the extent I can do so in this open session. To the extent I cannot, I will be happy to respond more fully in the closed session that is to follow.